THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). Government is already implementing a scheme known as "Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth" (SEEUY). Under the SEEUY scheme a target of 12.5 lakh beneficiaries has been set during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97).

Additional Employment of 24.5 lakh persons during Eighth Five Year Plan has been estimated on the basis of annual average growth in production in the small scale sector.

(c) In the Policy Measures for Promoting and Strengthening Small, Tiny and Village Enterprises laid in the Parliament on 6th August, 1991 emphasis has been laid to ensure both adequate flow of credit on a normative basis and quality of its delivery for viable operations of the small scale sector. Besides, tiny/small scale units would be given priority in allocation of adequate and equitable raw materials, both indigenous and imported.

Decline in Growth of Small Scale Industry

4513. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a decline in the growth of small scale industries during 1991-92;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to support the Small Scale Sector; and

(d) the total number of Small Scale Industries registered in the Country at present the total annual turnover by them and the percentage of exports by them annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main reasons for decline in the growth of small scale industries are credit squeeze; foreign exchange constraints; demand recession; high interest rate on working capital provided by banks; and shortage of raw materials; particularly of imported raw materials.

(c) Steps taken by the Government to support the small scale sector are: provision of need-based credit to SSI units; setting up of a Committee by RBI to look into the credit needs and sickness in the small scale sector; relaxation in import restrictions; reduction in interest rate by 1% on bank credit from 20% to 19%; SLR has been reduced by 8.5% from 38.5% to 30%.

(d) The total number of small scale units coming under the purview of Small Industries Development Organisation registered on permanent basis with the various State/UT Directorate of Industries was 13,78,480 at the end of 1990.

The total estimated production in the small scale sector (of both registered and unregistered units) at current prices was Rs. 155340 crores during 1990-91.

The percentage of direct exports by the small scale sector in the total exports of the country was about 28 percent in 1989-90, the latest year for which firm figures are available.

Prices of Coal

4514. PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have increased the prices of coal to reduce the losses suffered by the Coal India Limited;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study to find out the reasons for

which Coal India Ltd. has been incurring losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to make the undertaking earn profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The price of coal has been revised w. e. f. 28.12.1991 to recoup the increase in the cost of production.

(b) & (c). Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has recently undertaken a comprehensive study of Coal India with a view to recommend suitable prices and other policy measures for the industry.

(d) Steps being taken to reduce the costs in Coal India Limited include:–

(i) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers and restricting the intake of new employees against vacancies caused by natural wastage.

(ii) Control on increase in manpower through voluntary retirement schemes.

(iii) The concept 'all men-all jobs' is being tried on an experimental basis.

(iv) Improvement in the availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipments.

(v) Increase in production and production with special imposes on underground mines.

(vi) A number of system improvements and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operations.

Central Assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh

4515. SHRI SHYAM LAL KAMAL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Assistance promised to Uttar Pradesh Government in 1990-91 and 1991-92 has not been released in full;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the withheld assistance is proposed to be released with the assistance for 1992-93; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Formula based (Net) Central Assistance allocated and adjusted for dues during 1990-91 was released. For the Annual Plan of 1991-92, a sum of Rs. 967.14 crores has been released so far against allocation of Rs. 1044.13 crores.

(b) to (d). The balance amount would be considered for release after receiving provisional expenditure details on State Plan 1991-92 of the Uttar Pradesh State.

Percentage of Reservation

4516. DR. (SHRIMATI) PADMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing percentages of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are based on 1971 census;

(b) if so, the reasons why the Government have not taken into account census 1981 for it ; and

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the census 1981 for percentage of reservation?